July 27, 1992 $1.95

PRO Wrestling ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY

STUNNING UPSET: VADER BEATS STING AT BASH!

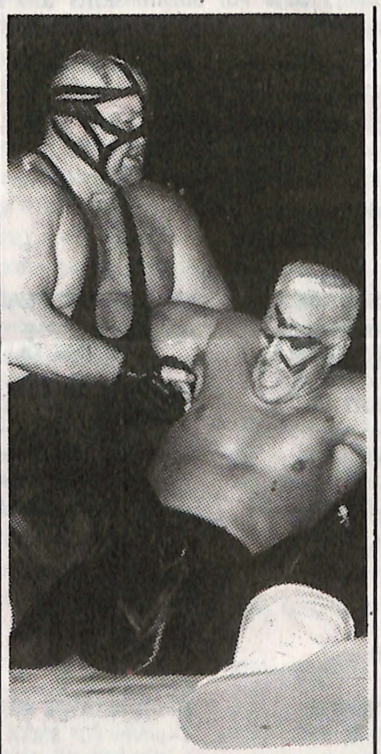
Big Van Vader pinned **Sting** in 17:17 to capture the WCW World title at the federation's annual Great American Bash pay-per-view card on July 12 at the Civic Center in Albany, Georgia.

One match later, **Steve Williams** and **Terry Gordy** won the NWA World tag team title tournament by defeating **Dustin Rhodes** and **Barry Windham** in the final in 21:10 when Williams pinned Rhodes. It was their second major triumph in a week; on July 5, they captured the WCW World tag team belts from **Rick** & **Scott Steiner**.

Vader was accompanied to the ring by his manager, **Harley Race**. The champion and challenger went face to face and began jawing with each other before Vader rocked the champion with forearms to the head. The "Stinger" rolled out of the ring after Vader jolted him with a short clothesline.

Back in the ring, Sting's clothesline had no effect on the massive Vader. When Sting attempted a crossbodyblock, Vader caught him and threw him to the mat.

Sting grabbed his first advantage after Vader missed a dive in the corner. The champion suplexed his foe and followed up with two clotheslines, the second of



Big Van Vader vs. Sting

which knocked Vader out of the ring.

When Sting hesitated to accept Vader's challenge to a test of strength, Race taunted him with chants of "Coward!" Sting accepted and, after Vader twisted his arm, floored the challenger with a series of right hands. Sting followed up with a dropkick and a spinning savate kick, then suplexed him back into the ring.

Vader quickly fought back, but after Sting booted him in the face and nearly pinned him with an inside cradle, he rolled out of the ring.

When he returned, Sting went for a sunset flip, but Vader dropped onto his sternum. Vader battered the champion with two elbowdrops and a big splash. After derisively kicking Sting in the ribs, Vader picked him up by the throat and dropped him to the mat.

Vader clamped a stepover toehold on Sting, turning it into a scorpion deathlock, the "Stinger's" own traditional finishing maneuver. After about two minutes, Sting powered out of the punishing hold, but Vader blasted him with two rights to the jaw.

At Race's behest, Vader whipped Sting to the ropes, then caught him with a clothesline. The challenger scored a two-count following a powerslam. On the turnbuckle, Sting fought off the effects of a headbutt and blocked a Vader right hand, following up with chops and punches to the head.

After the champ floored Vader with a rolling karate kick, he caught him with a DDT. But Sting, exhausted from his efforts, stayed on the mat. He got to his feet first, though, and shoulderblocked Vader to the ring apron.

When the challenger climbed to the top rope, Sting kicked him, causing him to fall on the turnbuckle. As Vader slumped there, the "Stinger" booted him several more times. The champion hoisted the 445-pound Vader onto his shoulders in a fireman's carry, struggled mightily for a few moments, then dropped him to the mat, covering him for a two-count.

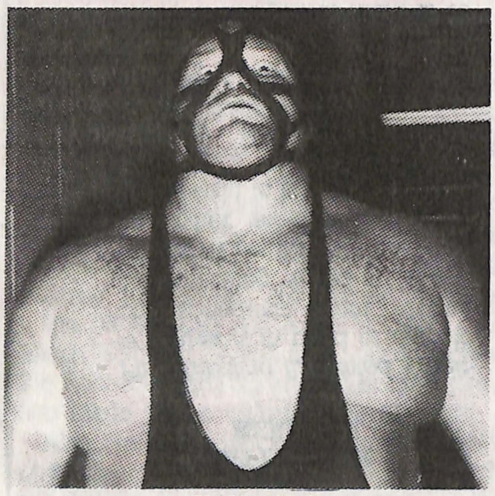
Sting attempted to follow up with a back suplex, but Vader elbowed him in the face. As Vader lifted up the champion for a suplex of his own, Sting accidentally kicked referee **Randy Anderson** in the face, knocking him to the canvas. Instead of being suplexed, Sting flipped over Vader and gave *him* a suplex. Referee Anderson scrambled to his feet and administered the two-count.

After stinging Vader with a dropkick, Sting tossed him to the turnbuckle and walloped him with a "Stinger splash." Sting kicked his foe facefirst to the opposite turnbuckle and went for another splash, but miscalculated and smacked his forehead on the metal hook connecting the turnbuckle to the ringpost.

Bloodied, Sting slumped on the turnbuckle for several moments, then fell to the

(continued on back page)

WRESTLER OF THE WEEK



Big Van Vader

Two months ago, **Big Van Vader** broke **Sting's** ribs. At The Great American Bash, he broke the World champion's spirit.

On July 12 in Albany, Georgia, the 445-pound behemoth overpowered the "Stinger," finishing him off with a power bomb to win the World championship, his first WCW title of any kind.

"Sting was just the first," Vader boasted afterward. "I will crush anyone who tries to take this belt from me. There is no one in WCW who can match my strength!"

For many years, Vader has enjoyed enormous success in Japanese and European federations. He and **Bam Bam Bigelow** had held the IWGP tag team title until June 26, when they were defeated by **Rick** and **Scott Steiner**.

But many experts believed that Vader's reputation preceded him. When he first signed for the series of title matches in April, Sting consistently pinned him—until April 12 in Atlanta.

On that date, Vader caught Sting in mid-splash, then slammed him to the canvas, breaking his ribs. Vader was disqualified for hitting the referee, but that moment defined Vader's power.

"That was the turning point," offered WCW analyst **Jesse Ventura**. "When Vader broke Sting's ribs, he shattered his aura of invincibility. He proved Sting could be beaten."

Vader then struggled against **Nikita Koloff**, who substituted for Sting while the champion recuperated from his injury. In fact, in Richmond, Virginia, one night prior to the Bash, Sting pinned Vader in a tag team match also involving Koloff and **Rick Rude**.

Following the title-changing pin, Sting was left lying in the middle of the ring, bloodied, bruised, and beaten. The sight did not bode well for future challengers to the World title, among them **Ron Simmons**, who appeared at the Bash in street clothes.

"He ain't so bad," offered Simmons. "He's an ex-football player, just like me. We'll see who the better wrestler is."

MATCH OF THE WEEK

"Maniac" Mike Davis met **Sam Houston** in a bizarre falls-count-anywhere match (as opposed to a normal one) on a GWF card on July 10 at the Sportatorium in Dallas.

It didn't take long for the contest to make its way out of the ring. At times, it appeared as though Houston didn't quite know how to handle Davis, who has become one of the strangest men in the sport.

Houston quickly gained his bearings, though, and battled Davis up the aisle and into the lobby. When they reemerged down another aisle, Davis chased Houston with a chainsaw! That was even extreme by *his* warped standards!

Back in the ring, there was a standoff for about a minute, as Houston leaned against the ropes while Davis stood halfway across the ring and threatened him with the saw. When Houston bailed out, Davis also left the ring and aimlessly wandered around.

When Davis put down the chainsaw on the announcer's table, Houston grabbed it and chased Davis back into the ring. At that point, the new GWF commissioner, **Joe Castallini**, arrived at ringside. When he spotted Houston with the saw, not only did he disqualify him, but he hit him with a lengthy suspension.

"This Castallini guy is clearly on the side of the rulebreakers," Houston claimed. "It's absolutely *ridiculous* that he would suspend me and do nothing about Davis, who started this whole thing. Okay, maybe I should've kept my hands off the chainsaw, but I have to defend myself. As long as a guy like Davis is allowed to run around unchecked, people like me will be forced to take desperate measures."

Davis, naturally, is quite happy with Castallini's leadership—which is even worse news for Houston and his friends.

YAY & NAY

We begin with a "yay" for **Steve Williams** and **Terry Gordy**, who continue to be the dominant tag team in WCW. One week after winning the World tag team title from **The Steiners**, "Dr. Death" and "Bam Bam" defeated **Dustin Rhodes** and **Barry Windham** in the final of the NWA World tag team tournament. It's clear that Williams and Gordy are on a mission to establish themselves as the best tag team in the world today, and they are doing just that.

It took just two weeks for us to retract a "yay" for **The Moondogs**, who are USWA tag team champions again via scurrilous means. **Spot** and **Cujo** defeated **Jerry Lawler** and **Jeff Jarrett** when manager **Richard Lee** threw a blue substance into the eyes of Jarrett, setting up Spot's pin. It took seven months for the fan favorites to dethrone the rabid rulebreakers, but it took the 'Dogs just one week to regain the belts. When are these guys going to be suspended?

"Yay" to **Ron Cumberledge**, who showed how good a wrestler he is by winning a 12-man battle royal on a Great Lakes Wrestling Association card. Cumberledge was up against some tough competition, including former WWF World champion **Ivan Koloff** and 10-time USWA champion **Jerry Lawler**. Cumberledge, who also won a singles match earlier on the card, may struggle against the WWF's elite, but he proved that he is a force to be reckoned with.

How about a "nay" for new GWF commissioner **Joe Castallini**, who is the antithesis of **Gorilla Monsoon**. Castallini, who looks like an extra from a gangster movie, immediately sided with rulebreakers following his introduction. Later, he suspended TV champion **Sam Houston** for threatening **Mike Davis** with a chainsaw—after Davis had relentlessly stalked Houston with the saw!

We close with a "yay" for **Bob Backlund**, who appears to have made a full-fledged return to the WWF, pinning **The Brooklyn Brawler** in Toronto. The former World champion is one of the few remaining "old school" wrestlers who rely on technical skill and avoid theatrics. We wish the "All-American Boy" well in his return to the mat sport.

THIS WEEK

July 18-July 24. All dates subject to change.

Sat/18	Sun/19	Mon/20	Tue/21	Wed/22	Thu/23	Fri/24
USA: Portland, OR **USWA:** Nashville, TN **WCW:** Charlotte, NC **WWF:** Milwaukee, WI; Pensacola, FL	**NWF:** Houma, LA **WCW:** Charleston, WV **WIN:** Baltimore, MD **WWF:** Warwick, RI; Bangor, ME; Hyannis, MA	**NWF:** New Orleans, LA **USWA:** Memphis, TN **WCW:** Roanoke, VA **WWF:** Worcester, MA	**NAWA:** Dallas, TX **NWF:** New Orleans, LA **USWA:** Louisville, KY **WWF:** Portland, ME	**USWA:** Evansville, IN **WWF:** El Paso, TX; Moncton, New Brunswick	**ICWA:** Tampa, FL **WCW:** Oklahoma City **WWF:** St. Johns, Newfoundland; Las Vegas, NV	**GWF:** Dallas, TX **WCW:** St. Joseph, MO **WWF:** Auburn Hills, MI; Phoenix, AZ

THIS WEEK: It's hard to believe that the previously unranked Big Van Vader is now the WCW World champion—and it's an even tougher pill for the former champion, Sting, to swallow. "No excuses," said Sting, who is preparing for his rematch against Vader on Saturday at Charlotte Stadium in Charlotte, North Carolina. "Vader may be champ now, but I want all my fans to come out for this match. I'm going to be champion again, and Charlotte Stadium is where I intend to win that belt back!"

- Monday night in Memphis, Eric Embry returns to the USWA to battle "Global International official" Mike Samples.
- At the WWF TV taping Monday in Worcester, Massachusetts, a rare pairing of champions as World titlist Randy Savage teams with Intercontinental champ Bret Hart to battle Ric Flair and Shawn Michaels.
- Saturday night in Caguas, Puerto Rico, the now-hated Invader I takes on Miguel Perez Jr. in a grudge match.

REPORTERS' NOTEBOOK

HORMIGUEROS, PUERTO RICO: La Ley means "the law," and that's exactly what the fan favorite was during a falls-count-anywhere match between Universal champion Carlos Colon and Invader I. The challenger pinned the champion but had his feet on the ropes for leverage. Referee El Vikingo, unaware of the infraction, was set to award the belt to Invader. But La Ley tipped Vikingo to what had happened, and the arbiter restarted the match. This time, Colon clobbered Invader with La Ley's nightstick and pinned him outside the ring. As for Invader, he fought the law, and the law won.

—Chris Bernucca

ATLANTA: Although Big Van Vader won the World title, not all the news was good for manager Harley Race. Mr. Hughes, one of Race's original stablemates, has apparently severed ties with his boss. During a match pitting Junkyard Dog against Vinnie Vegas, "Diamond" Dallas Page joined Vegas in a vicious two-on-one attack of JYD. Sporting an eyepatch, the former bodyguard emerged from the dressing room and rushed the ring, saving JYD from a certain beating. Race's "Half-Ton of Holy Hell" is now significantly lighter, while the fan favorites now have a heavy hitter in their locker room.

—Andy Rodriguez

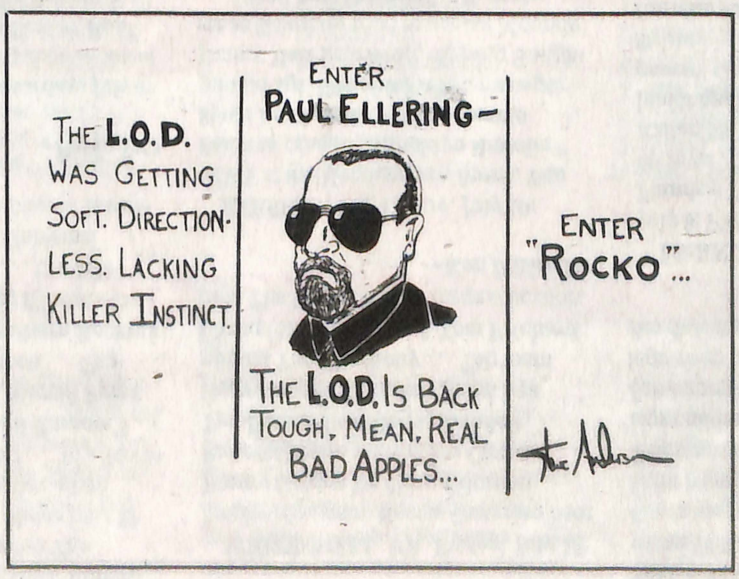
CHARLOTTE, NC: Ric Flair is giving WWF fans a case of deja vu. Late last year, the sport's biggest trash talker set his sights on Hulk Hogan's World title, using brass knuckles to beat Hogan, only to have the decision reversed by a referee. Eight months later, the opponent has changed, but the method remains the same. The "Nature Boy" thought he had regained the title after drilling World champion Randy Savage with the knucks. Fortunately, the referee flip-flopped the decision, allowing the "Macho Man" to keep the belt. We've lost count of how many times we've made this plea: Hey, Ric—just *wrestle.*

—Dave Rosenbaum

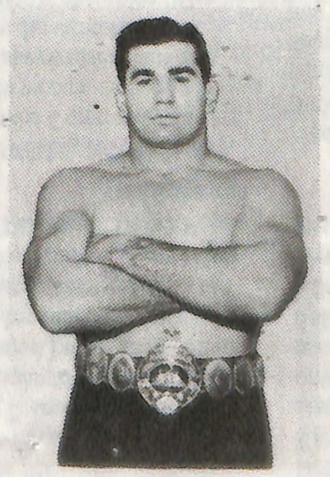
WHITEMELL, VA: The Fantastics want the Smoky Mountain tag team title so bad, they reversed field on a special stipulation for a match against champions The Heavenly Bodies. Bobby and Jackie Fulton initially told commissioner Bob Armstrong that they were sick and tired of the interfering Jim Cornette and requested a match banning the "Louisville Slugger" from ringside. However, The Fantastics ended up signing for a steel cage barbed wire match against Stan Lane and Tom Prichard on August 8 in Johnson City, Tennessee. Cornette will be allowed at ringside, but only because Armstrong nominated himself as special referee. By caving in on Cornette's presence, it sounds like the Fultons gave away a chance at the title.

—Bob Smith

STEVE ANDERSON'S VIEW


THE L.O.D. WAS GETTING SOFT. DIRECTIONLESS. LACKING KILLER INSTINCT.
ENTER PAUL ELLERING—
THE L.O.D. IS BACK TOUGH, MEAN, REAL BAD APPLES...
ENTER "ROCKO"...

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY



RING THE BELL!! on Archive.org

July 20, 1948

The remarkable Lou Thesz captures the fourth of his six career NWA World titles, pinning Bill Longson in Indianapolis. Longson had beaten Thesz for the title eight months earlier. Thesz, considered one of the greatest wrestlers of all-time, held the title for nearly eight years following the victory. Longson's loss marked the end of his second—and last—title reign.

A FAN'S VIEW

I am responding to Seth Mates' "A Fan's View" in the June 22 edition of *PWI Weekly*. Seth has it half right. The future of wrestling is here. However, it is in the WWF.

The WWF has led the North American wrestling scene since 1984, having the most interesting matches anywhere. Their television programs are second to none. Their supercards are promoted and advertised well. Every week there is a different surprise for viewers. New wrestlers come in all the time.

The WWF also has some fantastic main events. At WrestleMania VIII, the World title match between Randy Savage and Ric Flair was exciting and emotional. The hatred between those two made for an unforgettable meeting.

Also, the WWF has a great mix of matches, giving some of the opening- and middle-card wrestlers a chance to shine in the national spotlight. It's true that some of the matches don't make sense, but when you look at the whole picture of wrestlers trying to get to the top, you see them in a different light.

I feel that the WWF has the greatest group of wrestlers in the world. The WWF has the greatest WCW World champ (Flair) and soon will have the greatest WCW U.S. champ (Lex Luger). When you add in all the former World singles and tag team champs, you have a deep roster of experienced wrestlers whom the fans know very well.

When it comes down to who leads the wrestling world, now and well into the future, it is the WWF.

—Brian Alston

(The writer is a wrestling fan from Tyndall AFB, Florida. Send your comments of about 250 words to: A Fan's View, c/o ***Pro Wrestling Illustrated Weekly****, Box 48, Rockville Centre, NY 11571. All submissions are subject to editing for length and clarity.)*

TRANSACTIONS

NAMED: Joe Castallini, as the new commissioner of the Global Wrestling Federation. The announcement was made at the July 10 card in Dallas, Texas.

SUSPENDED: Global TV champion Sam Houston, by new commissioner Joe Castallini. Castallini suspended Houston during the July 10 card for threatening Mike Davis with a chainsaw. The suspension is for 30 days.

WON: The Big D heavyweight title, by Hurricane Mike, on July 12 in Dallas, Texas. Mike defeated Shawn Summers to capture the title.

The Great Lakes heavyweight title, by Ivan Koloff, on July 11 in Willowick, Ohio. Koloff defeated Psycho Mike to capture the championship.

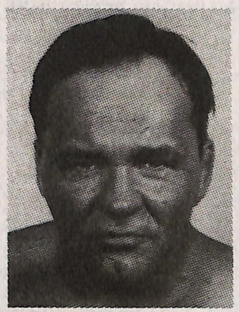
The Mid-Eastern heavyweight title, by Max Thrasher, on July 11 in Pasadena, Maryland. Thrasher defeated A.C. Golden in a tournament final to capture the new championship.

The Mid-Eastern light heavyweight title, by Adrian Hall, on July 11 in Pasadena, Maryland. Hall defeated Nick Tarentino to capture the championship.

The NWA World tag team tournament, by Steve Williams and Terry Gordy, on July 12 in Albany, Georgia. Williams and Gordy defeated Dustin Rhodes and Barry Windham in the tournament final.

The WCW World title, by Big Van Vader, on July 12 in Albany, Georgia. Vader pinned Sting to win the belt, his first.

WHO'S HOT, WHO'S NOT



Larry Zbyszko

WHO'S HOT

Larry Zbyszko. Very dangerous since leaving The Dangerous Alliance.

Kamala. He doesn't understand anything—except how to win.

Brian Lee. On fire as the Smoky Mountain champion.

Brad Armstrong. He's proving that his light heavyweight title is no fluke.

Tito Santana

WHO'S NOT

Tito Santana. "El Matador" is being trampled by the WWF's bulls.

Marcus Bagwell. His matinee-idol looks aren't helping him now.

The Brooklyn Brawler. Fans are giving him the old Bronx cheer.

Johnny Mantell. Seems to no longer be in the GWF title picture.

TRIVIA QUIZ

1. What's the name of Koko B. Ware's pet parrot?
2. What was name of the bulldog brought to ringside by Davey Boy Smith and Dynamite Kid?
3. What was the name of George Steele's doll companion?
4. What type of toy did Norman the Lunatic love the best?
5. What type of food did both Mighty Igor and Ivan Putski bring to ringside?
6. What fishy snack do The Bushwhackers enjoy en route to the ring?
7. What did Terry Garvin bring to the ring as a member of Beauty & The Beast?
8. What '70s pro wrestler brought a live pig to ringside?
9. Name Jake Roberts' two favorite pet snakes.
10. What electronic device did "Rock 'n' Roll" Buck Zumhofe always bring to ringside?

ANSWERS

1—Frankie; 2—Matilda; 3—Mine; 4—Teddy bears; 5—Kielbasa; 6—Sardines; 7—A candelabra; 8—Porky Pig; 9—Damien & Lucifer; 10—Portable "boom box" stereo.

RATINGS

For period ended July 13, 1992

TOP 10

1. **RANDY SAVAGE (2)** — *WWF World champion*
2. **BIG VAN VADER (-)** — *WCW World champion*
3. **BRET HART (4)** — *WWF I-C champion*
4. **STING (1)** — *No. 2 contender: WCW title*
5. **RICK RUDE (3)** — *WCW U.S. champion*
6. **RIC FLAIR (5)** — *No. 2 contender: WWF title*
7. **THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR (7)** — *No. 3 contender: WWF title*
8. **EDDIE GILBERT (6)** — *USWA champion*
9. **BRAD ARMSTRONG (-)** — *WCW light heavy champion*
10. **BRIAN LEE (-)** — *Smoky Mountain champion*

TAG TEAMS

1. **TERRY GORDY & STEVE WILLIAMS (1)** — *WCW World tag team champions*
2. **RICK & SCOTT STEINER (2)** — *No. 1 contenders: WCW tag team title*
3. **THE NATURAL DISASTERS (4)** — *No. 1 contenders: WWF tag team title*
4. **IRWIN R. SCHYSTER & TED DIBIASE (3)** — *WWF World tag team champions*
5. **THE MOONDOGS (-)** — *USWA tag team champions*
6. **TOM PRICHARD & STAN LANE (7)** — *Smoky Mountain tag team champions*
7. **THE LEGION OF DOOM (9)** — *No. 3 contenders: WWF tag team title*
8. **GARY YOUNG & STEVEN DANE (8)** — *Global tag team champions*
9. **THE NASTY BOYS (-)** — *No. 3 contenders: WWF tag team title*
10. **TOM ZENK & M.A. BAGWELL (-)** — *No. 2 contenders: WCW tag team title*

WCW

World Champion:
BIG VAN VADER (-)

1—RICK RUDE (1)
2—STING (C)
3—BRAD ARMSTRONG (3)
4—STEVE AUSTIN (2)
5—RICK STEAMBOAT (4)
6—BARRY WINDHAM (7)
7—NIKITA KOLOFF (5)
8—RON SIMMONS (6)
9—SUPER INVADER (10)
10—JUSIN LIGER (-)

WWF

World Champion:
RANDY SAVAGE (C)

1—BRET HART (1)
2—RIC FLAIR (2)
3—THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR (3)
4—DAVEY BOY SMITH (4)
5—THE MOUNTIE (8)
6—THE UNDERTAKER (5)
7—RICK MARTEL (6)
8—TATANKA (-)
9—SHAWN MICHAELS (7)
10—BIG BOSSMAN (-)

GLOBAL

North American champion:
SCOTT PUTSKI (C)

1—TERRY SIMMS (1)
2—MIKE DAVIS (8)
3—MANNY FERNANDEZ (-)
4—CHAZ (-)
5—ROD PRICE (5)
6—GIANT WARRIOR (-)
7—TUGBOAT TAYLOR (7)
8—JOHNNY MANTELL (6)
9—STEVEN DANE (3)
10—BOOKER T (-)

USWA

USWA champion:
EDDIE GILBERT (C)

1—TOM PRICHARD (1)
2—RICK MORTON (-)
3—BRIAN CHRISTOPHER (2)
4—JERRY LAWLER (3)
5—JEFF JARRETT (4)
6—TONY FALK (8)
7—MIKE SAMPLES (6)
8—ERIC EMBRY (-)
9—THE HORNET (9)
10—MIKE MILLER (7)

USA

USA champion:
TO BE DETERMINED

1—JESSE BARR (4)
2—BART SAWYER (3)
3—DAMIAN KNIGHT (6)
4—MIKE WINNER (9)
5—SUMITO (2)
6—C.W. BERGSTROM (1)
7—DON HARRIS (8)
8—AL MADRIL (-)
9—JIM POPE (-)
10—JOHN RAMBO (10)

WIN

WIN champion:
TO BE DETERMINED

1—MAX THRASHER
2—NEIL SUPERIOR
3—A.C. GOLDEN
4—DOUGLAS WITHERSPOON
5—TOM BRANDI
6—AGENT ORANGE
7—KIRK DREDD
8—SLEDGEHAMMER McGILL
9—TOMMY ROSE
10—KING KALUHA

DALLAS, TX, Sunday, July 12: Big D at the Rocket Palace: **Rod Price** wrestled **Eric Fontaine** to a draw . . . **Jimmy James** pinned **Ricky Long** . . . **Carl Colt** defeated **Ray Evans** on a reverse decision . . . **Manny Fernandez** battled **John Tatum** to a double-countout . . . **The Blackbirds** defeated **Scott Braddock** & **The Natural** by disqualification . . . Light heavyweight champion **Big D** defeated **Prince Kealoha** in a loser-leaves-Big D match . . . **Hurricane Mike** defeated **Shawn Summers** to win the Big D heavyweight title.

—Bob Wise

TORONTO, ONTARIO, Sunday, July 12: WWF at Maple Leaf Gardens: **Owen Hart** pinned **Brian Knobs** . . . **Bob Backlund** (substituting for **Kerry Von Erich**) beat **"Brooklyn Brawler" Steve Lombardi** . . . **Jerry Sags** beat **Koko B. Ware** . . . **Kamala** pinned **Tito Santana** . . . **The Legion of Doom** beat **The Beverly Brothers** when **Animal** pinned Blake . . . **Big Bossman** beat **Nailz** by disqualification . . . **The Ultimate Warrior & The Undertaker** beat **Papa Shango & Berzerker** when Undertaker pinned Berzerker.

—Steve Argintaru

ALBANY, GA, Sunday, July 12: WCW's Great American Bash at the Civic Center: In a match not shown on the pay-per-view telecast, **Super Invader** pinned **Marcus Alexander Bagwell** . . . NWA World tag team tournament: QUARTERFINALS: **Rick Steamboat** & **Nikita Koloff** defeated **Brian Pillman** & **Jushin Liger** in 19:26 when Steamboat pinned Pillman on a reversal . . . **Hiroshi Hase** & **Shinya Hashimoto** (substituting for **Akira Nogami**) beat **The Freebirds** in 9:16 when Hase pinned **Jim Garvin** with a "northern lights" suplex . . . **Dustin Rhodes** & **Barry Windham** defeated **Rick Rude** & **Steve Austin** (accompanied by **Madusa**) in 19:15 when Rhodes pinned Austin following a clothesline off the top rope . . . SEMIFINALS: **Steve Williams** & **Terry Gordy** beat Steamboat & Koloff in 21:39 when Williams pinned Steamboat with a cradle . . . Rhodes & Windham defeated Hase & Hashimoto in 14:55 when Windham pinned Hase following a clothesline . . . FINAL: Williams & Gordy beat Rhodes & Windham in 21:10 when Williams pinned Rhodes following a clothesline . . . **Big Van Vader** pinned **Sting** following a power bomb in 17:17 to capture the World title.

—Floyd Hargrove

HORMIGUEROS, PUERTO RICO, Sunday, July 12: WWC at the Arena: **El Ciclon Salvadoreno & The Rockin' Rebel** defeated **Greg Robertson & El Exotico** when Ciclon pinned Robertson . . . **Black Bart** beat **La Ley** . . . **El Vigilante** defeated **El Bronco** . . . **P.N. News** pinned **Dick Murdoch** . . . **The Southern Rockers** beat **Doug Masters & Randy Rhodes** when **Rex King** pinned Rhodes . . . In a Texas death match, **Ricky Santana** defeated **Mohammad Hussein** . . . In a falls-count-anywhere bout, Universal champion **Carlos Colon** pinned **Invader I.**

—Pablo Soto

RICHFIELD, OH, Sunday, July 12: WWF at the Richfield Coliseum: **Virgil** pinned **Kato** . . . **The Mountie** pinned **Sgt. Slaughter** . . . **Davey Boy Smith** pinned **Repo Man** . . . **The Natural Disasters** beat World tag team champions **Money Inc.** by countout.

—Jeff Gorman

KNOXVILLE, TN, Sunday, July 12: Smoky Mountain at Durango's: **The Fantastics** beat **Killer Kyle** & **Joe Cazana** when **Jackie Fulton** pinned Cazana . . . Heavyweight champion **Brian Lee** pinned **Tony Anthony** . . . In a non-title match, **Robert Gibson** & **Tim Horner** defeated tag team champions **Tom Prichard** & **Stan Lane** when manager **Jim Cornette's** interference backfired.

—Bill Canfield

ELKIN, NC, Saturday, July 11: PWF at the Armory: **"Gorgeous" George South** won a 10-man battle royal . . . Heavyweight champion **Italian Stallion** beat **"Mean" Mark Canterbury** . . . Junior heavyweight champion **"Gorgeous" George South** defeated **Crazy Cain** . . . **Flaming Youth** beat **Austin Steele** . . . **Cruel Connection II** defeated **Chief Black Eagle.**

—Henry Lane

CHARLOTTE, NC, Saturday, July 11: WWF at the Charlotte Coliseum: World champion **Randy Savage** defeated **Ric Flair** on a reverse decision when the referee spotted Flair using brass knuckles . . . **The Nasty Boys** defeated **Koko B. Ware** & **Owen Hart** when Brian Knobs pinned Ware . . . **Tatanka** pinned **Rick Martel** following a rollup . . . **Jim Powers** pinned **"Brooklyn Brawler" Steve Lombardi** following a powerslam . . . **The Natural Disasters** defeated World tag team champions **Money Inc.** by countout . . . **Davey Boy Smith** beat **Repo Man** . . . **The Undertaker** pinned **Berzerker.**

—David Roberson

PORTLAND, OR, Saturday, July 11: Championship Wrestling USA at the Portland Sports Arena: **Damian Knight** pinned **Mike Winner**, but pulled Winner's tights for leverage . . . **Al Madril** wrestled **Jim Pope** to a 10-minute draw . . . **Bart Sawyer** pinned **Sumito** . . . **Don & Ron Harris** beat **Carl Pope** & **Jesse Barr** when Don Harris pinned Pope . . . **C.W. Bergstrom** superplexed and pinned **John Rambo.**

—Kenn Jones

MORRISTOWN, TN, Saturday, July 11: Smoky Mountain Wrestling at East High School: **Hector Guerrero** beat **Jimmy Golden** by disqualification . . . **Robert Gibson** pinned **Joe Cazana** . . . Heavyweight champion **Brian Lee** beat **Buddy Landell** . . . **Tim Horner** defeated **Tony Anthony** . . . Tag team champions **Stan Lane** & **Tom Prichard** defeated **The Fantastics** when Prichard pinned **Jackie Fulton** after he bashed him with one of the title belts.

—Bill Needham

PASADENA, MD, Saturday, July 11: Mid-Eastern Wrestling Federation at the Stony Creek Democratic Club: Tag team champions **The Cream Team** beat **The Tokyo Terrors** by disqualification . . . **Adrian Hall** beat **Nick Tartentino** to win the light heavyweight title . . . **Joseph Mengele, Johnny Blaze,** & **The Rude Crew** defeated **Chaz Austin, Joe Thunder, Ricky Lane,** and **Ramblin' Rich** in an eight-man elimination match . . . **Zak Blades** pinned **The Metal Maniac** . . . In the first round of the heavyweight title tournament, **A.C. Golden** beat **A.J. Fritzoid** . . . **Axl Rotten** battled **Morgus the Maniac** to a draw, eliminating both from the tournament . . . **Lucifer** beat **The Super Destroyer** by disqualification when referee **Joe DeCarlo** spotted the Destroyer with a foreign object . . . **Max Thrasher** pinned **Kirk Dredd** . . . **Bob Starr** pinned **Sledgehammer McGill** . . . In the second round of the tournament, **A.C. Golden** defeated **Lucifer** by disqualification . . . **Max Thrasher** pinned **Bob Starr** . . . In the tournament final, **Max Thrasher** pinned **A.C. Golden** to become the first Mid-Eastern heavyweight champion.

—Timothy A. Walker

RICHMOND, VA, Saturday, July 11: WCW at The Diamond: **Larry Zbyszko** beat **Bobby Eaton** . . . **Arn Anderson** pinned **Marcus Alexander Bagwell** . . . Light heavyweight champion **Brad Armstrong** wrestled **Jushin Liger** to a draw . . . **Rick Steamboat** defeated **Cactus Jack** . . . **Dustin Rhodes** beat **Greg Valentine** . . . **Barry Windham** defeated TV champion **Steve Austin** in a non-title match . . . **Ron Simmons** beat **Super Invader** . . . **Sting** & **Nikita Koloff** defeated **Rick Rude** & **Big Van Vader** when Sting pinned Vader . . . World tag team champions **Steve Williams** & **Terry Gordy** beat **Rick** & **Scott Steiner** by disqualification when Rick threw Williams over the top rope.

—Eddie Cheslock

BAYAMON, PUERTO RICO, Saturday, July 11: WWC at Juan Loubriel Stadium: **El Bronco** & **El Ciclon Salvadoreno** defeated **El Exotico** & **Randy Rhodes** when Ciclon pinned Exotico . . . **La Ley** beat **Greg Robertson** . . . **Black Bart** defeated **The Rockin' Rebel** . . . **P.N. News** beat **El Vigilante** by disqualification when **Dick Murdoch** interfered . . . In a Texas death match, **Mohammad Hussein** beat **Ricky Santana** . . . **Miguel Perez Jr.** defeated **Dick Murdoch** . . . Tag team champions **The Southern Rockers** battled **Ron Starr** & **Doug Masters** to a double-disqualification . . . In a falls-count-anywhere match, Universal champion **Carlos Colon** pinned **Invader I.**

—Pablo Soto

WILLOWICK, OH, Saturday, July 11: Great Lakes Wrestling Assocation at the Shoregate Shopping Center: **Ron Cumberledge** pinned **The Bounty Hunter** following a flying bodypress from the top turnbuckle . . . **The Demon of Darkness** defeated **The Executioner** with a sleeperhold . . . **Thomas Rich** defeated Global TV champion **Sam Houston** in a non-title match with a figure-four leglock followed by a pin . . . **Ivan Koloff** defeated **Psycho Mike** to win the Great Lakes title . . . **Jerry Lawler** battled **Ivan Koloff** to a double-disqualification . . . **Rockin' Robin** pinned **Candi Devine** following a face-front piledriver . . . North American champion **Vladimir Markoff** pinned **Tank Sherman** . . . **Jerry Lawler** defeated **Kamala** on a reverse decision. Kamala pinned Lawler after **Ivan Koloff** slugged Lawler in the back with a chain; the referee later negated the pinfall and awarded the bout to Lawler . . . **Ron Cumberledge** won a 12-man battle royal by simultaneously ousting **Vladimir Markoff** and **Jerry Lawler.**

—Jeff Gorman & Bernice Hipple

DALLAS, TX, Friday, July 10: Global Wrestling Federation at the Sportatorium: **Giant Warrior** pinned **Butch Masters** . . . **Manny Fernandez** beat **Manual Villalobos** . . . **Chaz** pinned **Jimmy James** . . . Tag team champions **Steven Dane** & **Gary Young** defeated **The Ebony Experience** by disqualification . . . **Scott Putski** & **Terry Simms** beat **Shawn Summers** & **Alex Porteau** . . . **Manny Fernandez** pinned **Jimmy James** . . . **Steven Dane** battled **Booker T** to a no-contest when **Chaz** interfered . . . **Mike Davis** defeated TV champion **Sam Houston** by disqualification; following the match, Houston was suspended by new Global Commmissioner **Joe Castallini** for threatening Davis with a chainsaw . . . **John Tatum** & **Rod Price** defeated **Gary Young** & **Steven Dane** in a non-title double-strap lumberjack match . . . **Rod Price** pinned **Ed Robinson** . . . **Giant Warrior** pinned **Tugboat Taylor** . . . **Mike Davis** defeated **Terry Simms** by disqualification when **Sam Houston** interfered . . . **The Ebony Experience** & **Scott Putski** defeated **Alex Porteau, Johnny Mantell,** & **Shawn Summers.**

—Richard Edberg

WHITESMELL, VA, Friday, July 10: Smoky Mountain: **Hector Guerrero** beat **Jimmy Golden** by disqualification . . . **Robert Gibson** pinned **Joe Cazana** . . . **Tim Horner** beat **Buddy Landell** . . . Heavyweight champion **Brian Lee** pinned **Tony Anthony** . . . Tag team champions **Stan Lane** & **Tom Prichard** beat **The Fantastics** by disqualification.

—Ken Ulhlander

HERSHEY, PA, Friday, July 10: WWF at the Hersheypark Arena: **Tito Santana** pinned **"Brooklyn Brawler" Steve Lombardi** . . . **The Mountie** pinned **Sgt. Slaughter** when manager **Jimmy Hart** interfered, tripping Slaughter as Slaughter tried to suplex Mountie . . . **Virgil** beat **Skinner** . . . **Kamala** pinned **Kerry Von Erich** . . . World champion **Randy Savage** defeated **Ric Flair** . . . **Davey Boy Smith** pinned **Repo Man** . . . **The Natural Disasters** beat World tag team champions **Money Inc.** by countout when Hart and **Irwin R. Schyster** pulled **Ted DiBiase** out of the ring and retreated to the dressing room . . . **The Undertaker** pinned **The Berzerker.**

—Timothy A. Walker

ST. LOUIS, MO, Friday, July 10: WWF at the Arena: **Jim Brunzell** defeated **Kato** . . . **The Legion of Doom** defeated **The Beverly Brothers** . . . **Hacksaw Duggan** defeated **Nailz** by disqualification when Nailz used **Big Bossman's** nightstick against Duggan . . . Intercontinental champion **Bret Hart** defeated **Shawn Michaels** . . . **Rick Martel** beat **Tatanka** by countout . . . **The Nasty Boys** defeated **Koko B. Ware** & **Owen Hart** . . . **The Ultimate Warrior** beat **Papa Shango.**

—Larry Hohnbaum

LANCASTER, SC, Friday, July 10: PWF at the Armory: **Italian Stallion** won a 10-man bunkhouse stampede . . . Junior heavyweight champion **"Gorgeous" George South** beat **Chief Black Eagle** . . . **Flaming Youth** defeated **Black Scorpion** . . . **"Mean" Mark Canterbury** beat **Star Ryder** . . . **The Cruel Connection** defeated **The Beach Patrol.**

—Tim Blankenship

RALEIGH, NC, Friday, July 10: WCW at the Dorton Arena: World champion **Sting** pinned **Super Invader** following a bulldog headlock . . . U.S. champion **Rick Rude** battled **Nikita Koloff** to a double-disqualification . . . **Rick & Scott Steiner** defeated **Bobby Eaton & Arn Anderson** when Rick Steiner pinned Eaton following a flying bulldog headlock . . . **Barry Windham** defeated TV champion **Steve Austin** in a non-title match . . . **Dustin Rhodes** pinned **Greg Valentine** . . . **Rick Steamboat** pinned **Cactus Jack** . . . World tag team champions **Steve Williams & Terry Gordy** defeated **Tom Zenk & Marcus Alexander Bagwell** when Williams pinned Bagwell . . . **Ron Simmons** beat **Terrence Taylor** . . . Light heavyweight champion **Brad Armstrong** pinned **Jushin Liger** when Liger missed a moonsault, allowing Armstrong to catch him with a Russian legsweep for the pinfall . . . **Larry Zbyszko** defeated **"Diamond" Dallas Page.**

—David Roberson

McANDENVILLE, NC, Thursday, July 9: PWF at the Community Center: **Flaming Youth** won an eight-man battle royal . . . Heavyweight champion **Italian Stallion** defeated **Killdozer** . . . Junior heavyweight champion **"Gorgeous" George South** beat **Austin Steele** . . . **Flaming Youth** defeated **Russian Assassin** . . . **Cruel Connection II** beat **American G.I.**

—Bob Tammonds

YOUNGSTOWN, OH, Thursday, July 9: WWF at the Beeghly Center: **Tito Santana** pinned **"Brooklyn Brawler" Steve Lombardi** . . . **The Undertaker** beat **Berzerker** . . . **The Mountie** pinned **Sgt. Slaughter** . . . **Kamala** pinned **Kerry Von Erich** . . . **The Natural Disasters** beat World tag team champions **Money Inc.** by countout . . . **Virgil** beat **Skinner** . . . **Davey Boy Smith** defeated **Repo Man** . . . World champion **Randy Savage** beat **Ric Flair** by disqualification.

—David Faber

ROCKFORD, IL, Thursday, July 9: WWF at the Metro Arena: **Jim Brunzell** beat **Kato** . . . **The Nasty Boys** defeated **Koko B. Ware & Owen Hart** . . . **Rick Martel** defeated **Tatanka** by countout . . . **Hacksaw Duggan** beat **Nailz** by disqualification . . . **The Legion of Doom** defeated **The Beverly Brothers** . . . Intercontinental champion **Bret Hart** pinned **Shawn Michaels** . . . **The Ultimate Warrior** pinned **Papa Shango.**

—David Faber

NORFOLK, VA, Thursday, July 9: WCW at the Scope: **Marcus Alexander Bagwell** beat **"Diamond" Dallas Page** . . . **Cactus Jack** beat **Larry Zbyszko** . . . Light heavyweight champion **Brad Armstrong** battled **Jushin Liger** to a 20-minute draw . . . **Ron Simmons** beat **Greg Valentine** . . . **Rick & Scott Steiner** beat **Arn Anderson & Bobby Eaton** when Rick pinned Eaton . . . **Rick Steamboat** beat TV champion **Steve Austin** in a non-title match . . . World tag team champions **Steve Williams & Terry Gordy** beat **Dustin Rhodes & Barry Windham** when Gordy pinned Windham . . . World champion **Sting** beat **Super Invader** . . . U.S. champion **Rick Rude** battled **Nikita Koloff** to a double-disqualification.

—Eddie Cheslock

ALLENTOWN, PA, Tuesday, July 7: WWF at the Agriculture Hall: **Tito Santana** beat **"Brooklyn Brawler" Steve Lombardi** . . . **The Undertaker** pinned **Berzerker** . . . **Kamala** pinned **Kerry Von Erich** . . . **The Natural Disasters** beat World tag team champions **Money Inc.** by counout . . . **Virgil** pinned **Skinner** . . . **Davey Boy Smith** defeated **Repo Man** . . . **Randy Savage & Sgt. Slaughter** defeated **Ric Flair & The Mountie** when Slaughter pinned Mountie.

—Burton Crane

MEMPHIS, TN, Monday, July 6: USWA at Mid-South Coliseum: A tournament to determine an opponent for Southern champion **Tom Prichard** on July 13 went as follows: FIRST ROUND: **Billy Travis** beat **Mike Miller** . . . **Mike Samples** defeated **The Hornet** . . . **Tony Falk** beat **Jeff Daniels** . . . **Brian Christopher** defeated **Eric Embry** . . . SEMI-FINALS: Travis beat Samples . . . Christopher defeated Falk . . . FINAL: Christopher beat Travis . . . Heavyweight champion **Eddie Gilbert** defeated **Rick Morton** . . . **Moondogs Spot & Cujo** beat **Jerry Lawler & Jeff Jarrett** to regain the tag team title when Spot pinned Jarrett after manager **Richard Lee** threw a blue substance into Jarrett's eyes.

—Mark Mitchell

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COVER STORY

(cont. from front page)

mat, where Vader covered him and gained a two-count. Sting made it to his feet groggily, wildly swinging at Vader and missing. Vader lifted up Sting, crunched him with a thunderous power bomb, and scored the pin.

The Civic Center crowd watched in stunned near-silence as Vader was awarded the championship belt. Sting, meanwhile, was attended to by fellow grapplers **Ron Simmons** and **Nikita Koloff**, matchmaker **Grizzly Smith**, and referees Anderson, **Ole Anderson**, **Nick Patrick**, and **Mike Adkins**.

Interviewed immediately after the bout by WCW commentator **Eric Bischoff**, Vader and Race did not hide their contempt for the ex-champion.

"The myth is gone! The myth has been destroyed!" Race screamed. "[Vader] is the king of athletes, the king of wrestling!"

"The pain game has been taught," Vader added. "The lesson has been learned."

In the NWA World tag team tournament final, Rhodes and Windham fought at a disadvantage, as it was their third match of the night. They had beaten **Rick Rude** and **Steve Austin** in the quarterfinals, and **Hiroshi Hase** and **Shinya Hashimoto** in the semis. Williams and Gordy, on the other hand, had contested only a semifinal bout, in which they defeated Koloff and **Rick Steamboat**.

Before the bout, the Steiners came to the ring, but match referee Ole Anderson sent them back to the dressing room.

About 20 minutes into the contest, Williams attempted an "Oklahoma stampede" powerslam on Rhodes, but Windham kicked "Dr. Death" in the back, causing Rhodes to fall on top of Williams and gain a two-count. As Windham and Gordy battled outside the ring, Williams tried to shoulderblock Rhodes on the turnbuckle, but Rhodes moved away.

When Rhodes went for a bulldog headlock on Williams, "Dr. Death" threw him off and into Gordy, who was fighting Windham from the ring apron. When Rhodes got up, Williams caught him with a clothesline so powerful it flipped him over. Williams quickly moved in and scored the pin on Rhodes.

For complete coverage of the Bash, see the "PWI Weekly Round-Up." ☐

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